

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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R 141030Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 633

AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L U S B E R L I N 4 9 5

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, MPOL, US, UR, FR, BR, WB, GE

SUBJECT: USMLM ASSISTANCE TO CITIZENS IN GDR

1. SUMMARY: COMMANDER, US MILITARY LIAISON MISSION (CUSMLM) HAS PROPOSED TO HIS HEADQUARTERS REVISION OF USMLM POLICY REGARDING MLM ASSISTANCE TO US CITIZENS IN GDR. WE CONCUR, PROVIDED IT IS MODIFIED TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT CONTACT BY MLM WITH US EMB BERLIN SHOULD BE RESTRICTED TO SERIOUS EMERGENCY WHERE TIME WILL NOT PERMIT COMMUNICATION THROUGH USBER. END SUMMARY.

2. IN MESSAGE TO USAREUR, CUSMLM HAS NOTED NEW SITUATION RESULTING FROM ESTABLISHMENT OF US-GDR RELATIONS AND HAS RECOMMENDED:

3. BEGIN EXTRACT

A. AS REGARDS US CITIZENS IN EAST GERMANY WHO REQUEST OR REQUIRE ASSISTANCE:

(1) IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS USMLM LIAISON PERSONNEL REQUEST ASSISTANCE THROUGH SOVIETS AND ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM THROUGH SOVIET GOOD OFFICES.

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(2) IF THIS FAILS AND THE PROBLEM IS CLEARLY
IN EAST GERMAN HANDS, USMLM LIAISON PERSONNEL WILL
DIRECTLY CONTACT THE US EMB IN EAST BERLIN (TIME
SENSITIVE MATTERS) AND REQUEST THEY ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THE SITUATION. IF TIME PERMITS, SUCH CONTACT WILL
BE MADE THROUGH USBER.

(3) IN ROUTINE SITUATIONS, USMLM WILL DIRECT
PERSONNEL TO CONTACT THE US EMB IN EAST BERLIN.

B. IN REGARD TO US CITIZENS SHOWING UP AT USMLM
POTSDAM HOUSE, RECOMMEND THAT THEY BE AUTHORIZED TO
REMAIN AT THE INSTALLATION PENDING INSTRUCTIONS FROM
THE US EMB IN EAST BERLIN.

4. IMPLEMENTATION OF PARA 3 WILL REQUIRE A SMALL
DEGREE OF COORDINATION BETWEEN USMLM AND THE EMB IN
EAST BERLIN. THE ABOVE PROPOSALS ARE ENVISAGED AS
GUIDANCE FOR ACTION IN EVENT OF A SERIOUS SITUATION.
ROUTINELY, US CITIZENS WILL BE REFERRED TO THE US
EMB IN BERLIN BY USMLM TOURS AND/OR THE POTSDAM HOUSE

OIC. END EXTRACT

5. WE AGREE THAT MLM RETAINS IMPORTANT ROLE VIS-A-VIS
SOVIETS REGARDING MEMBERS OF US FORCES TRANSITTING AIR
CORRIDORS AND ON ACCESS ROUTES BETWEEN BERLIN AND
HELMSTEDT, E.G., MEMBERS OF FORCES STRAYED FROM AUTOBAHN,
DOWNED AIRMEN, AND STRANDED TRAIN PASSENGERS. CO-
TINUING MLM ROLE IN SUCH TRAVEL EMERGENCIES WILL KEEP
ANY EMERGENCY ON ACCESS ROUTES UNDER QUADRIPARTITE
UMBRELLA. SOVIETS ALSO MAY BE ABLE TO EVOKE PROMPTER
GDR ACTION IN THESE SITUATIONS ON BEHALF OF US PERSONNEL
THAN APPROACH BY EMB TO GDR FON MINISTRY.

6. AS FOR ASSISTANCE TO US CITIZENS WHO ARE NOT
FORCES PERSONNEL, WE AGREE POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR MLM
POLICY SHOULD BE PRINCIPLE OF ADVISING US CITIZENS
TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH EMB BERLIN. WE BELIEVE MLM SHOULD
AVOID SUGGESTING IN ANY WAY THAT IT DEALS ROUTINELY
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WITH EMB BERLIN OR ACTS AS INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN US
CITIZEN AND EMB. SUCH PROCEDURE WOULD SUGGEST MLM
HAD ROLE IN US-GDR BILATERAL RELATIONS, WHICH COULD
UNDERCTU ARRANGEMENTS UPON WHICH MLM
EXISTENCE RESTS. ACCORDINGLY, WE WOULD EXPECT MLM TO GET IN
TOUCH WITH EMBASSY BERLIN DIRECTLY OR TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION
(INCLUDING WITH SOVIETS) ONLY IN LIFE-OR-DEATH EMERGENCY.
(IN MOST EMERGENCY SITUATIONS QUICKEST WAY TO CONTACT

EMB WOULD PROBABLY TURN OUT IN ANY EVENT TO BE THROUGH US
MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS TO USBER RATHER THAN THROUGH
COMMERCIAL CIRCUITS TO EMB.)

7. SIMILARLY, IN THE CASE OF A US CITIZEN APPEARING
AT POTSDAM HOUSE, MLM SHOULD CONTACT USBER THROUGH
MILITARY CHANNELS AND AWAIT INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE TAKING
ANY ACTION.GEORGE

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